Environmental Impact Statement Handout

Ecosystem choices:
- Choose a location that you can visit on a regular basis
- An ideal site will be about an acre in size (approx 43,000 sq. ft.)
- The location should be as natural as possible
  - (Meaning: It should not have been cultivated by man)

Important planning information:

Environmental impact statement due 30 days from today
Progress report due in 15 days
Approximately every other day, you should visit your ecosystem

Materials:
- Field notebook
- Camera
  - Regular photography
  - Digital
  - Video
- Water testing materials
- Soil testing materials
- Field guides
  - Plants
  - Birds
  - Insects
  - Mammals
- Rope and stakes for taking population studies
- Thermometer
- Map of the area

Specific Requirements for Impact Statement:

a. A description of the hysical features -location, water, rocks, soil, vegetation, roads, trails, etc.
b. A map of the area
c. Indications of the dominant plant species- drawings, photos, descriptions
d. Descriptions of the dominant animal species-drawings, photos, descriptions
e. An explanation of human impact
  - Why do people come here?
  - What do people do in this area?
  - What impact do humans have on plant, animal, soil, water, or erosion
f. Recommendations for future - What could you do to help preserve, or improve this ecosystem

Using the information, prepare a separate report in scientific format. You should conduct an individual study, survey, and population counts for this section. This should include the following in order:

1. Title
2. Purpose/Problem/Question: What are you trying to find out?
3. Materials/Equipment: List materials needed
4. Method/Procedure: Summarize in your own words the steps involved in conducting this study. Make sure it is detailed enough so that someone else could reproduce your procedure.
5. Results: This is where you show your data in tables, graphs, and charts with very brief explanations
6. Conclusion: Based upon your data, you conclude that.